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10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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13 RAY MARTIN HEFFINGTON,
14 Plaintiff,
15 v.
16 KILOLO KIJAKAZI,
17 Acting Commissioner of Social Security,
18 Defendant.

No. 1:21-cv-00031-EPG

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR EXTENSION
TO FILE DEFENDANT'S LETTER BRIEF

(ECF No. 16)

19 The parties stipulate through counsel that Defendant, the Acting Commissioner of Social
20 Security (the "Commissioner"), shall have an extension of 60 days to serve her letter brief this
21 case, to January 3, 2022, with Plaintiff's Opening Brief Due February 2, 2022 and Defendant's
22 Responsive Brief due March 4, 2022 and any reply brief due March 21, 2022.

23 The undersigned attorney for Defendant needs more time to respond to Plaintiff's
24 settlement letter. The undersigned was brought back early from a detail with SSA headquarters to
25 help with an influx of cases that has occurred at the same time as numerous attorney departures.
26 In the last 60 days, the undersigned has worked to identify, handle, and calendar over 100 active
27 cases in the Central District of California that need reassignment due to attorneys on leave or who
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1 have departed the agency. The undersigned is also working to process cases stayed in this
2 District, and hopes that the agency can soon begin processing and serving eCARs for 15 cases a
3 week. In efforts to process, calendar, and reassign these backlogged cases, Defendant seeks this
4 extension of 60 days to be able to review Plaintiff's letter brief and respond to it.

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6 Respectfully submitted,

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8 DATE: November 11, 2021

/s/ Jonathan Pena
Attorney for Plaintiff
(as approved via email)

10 PHILLIP A. TALBERT
11 Acting United States Attorney

12 DATE: November 11, 2021

By /s/ Patrick William Snyder
PATRICK WILLIAM SNYDER
Special Assistant United States Attorney

14 Attorneys for Defendant

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16 **ORDER**

17 Based on the above stipulation, IT IS ORDERED that Defendant is granted a sixty (60)
18 day extension, *i.e.*, until January 3, 2022, to serve Plaintiff with Defendant's response to
19 Plaintiff's letter brief. If this case proceeds past informal briefing, Plaintiff's opening brief is due
20 February 2, 2022, Defendant's responsive brief is due March 4, 2022, and any reply brief is due
21 March 21, 2022.

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23 IT IS SO ORDERED.

24 Dated: November 10, 2021

/s/ Eric P. Gray
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE